

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02265 071544Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4636

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 2265

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SW, VN

SUBJECT: PHAM VAN DONG MESSAGE TO PALME

1. I CALLED ON SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER PALME TODAY (MAY 7) AT HIS REQUEST. THE PRIME MINISTER INFORMED ME THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM NORTH VIETNAM'S PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG. IN THE MESSAGE, PHAM VAN DONG SAID THAT WITH THE FALL OF THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT, "A CHAPTER HAS BEEN CLOSED" AND IT IS NOW HIS WISH THAT HIS GOVERNMENT COULD HAVE "GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.."

2. PALME SAID HE HAD KNOWN PHAM VAN DONG FOR MANY YEARS AND ESTEEMED HIM AS A "HIGHLY CULTIVATED AND DISPASSIONATE MAN." HE SAID HE FELT IT IMPORTANT THAT I SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY INFORMED OF THE MESSAGE AND ADDED THAT HE, PALME, STOOD READY TO TRANSMIT WHATEVER COMMUNICATION THAT WE MIGHT WISH HIM TO CONVEY TO PHAM VAN DONG. THE PRIME MINISTER COMMENTED THAT HE FELT THE MESSAGE WAS A SIGNIFICANT ONE AND SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH HOW QUICKLY DONG HAD STATED THE DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. PALME CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY EXPRESSING HIS CONVICTION THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PREMIER SINCERELY WISHED GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

3. I THANKED THE PRIME MINISTER FOR HAVING INFORMED ME OF THE MESSAGE AND SAID I WOULD TRANSMIT IT PROMPTLY TO
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MY GOVERNMENT. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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